

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4836

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

USMISSION BERLIN

USMISSION NATO

AMCONSUL MUNICH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 5908

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, RO, UR

SUBJECT: CEAUSESCU'S QUICK TRIP TO THE CRIMEA

REF: MOSCOW 11333

1. SUMMARY. CEAUSESCU'S TRIP TO CRIMEA OF LESS THAN ONE DAY SEEMS NOT TO HAVE FURTHERED MATERIALLY ROMANIAN-SOVIET RELATIONS. ROMANIAN MEDIA COMMENTARY SO FAR HAS BEEN RATHER COOL IN TONE, WITH HEAVY EMPHASIS PLACED ON ROMANIAN PRINCIPLES OF PARTY INDEPENDENCE, NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, AND BERLIN ECPC CONFERENCE. END SUMMARY.

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2. CEAUSESCU MADE QUICK VISIT TO BREZHNEV IN CRIMEA AUGUST 5, DEPARTING FROM ROMANIAN BLACK SEA RESORT AREA IN MORNING AND RETURNING THAT EVENING. ACCORDING TO ROMANIAN MEDIA, HE WAS ACCOMPANIED ONLY BY STEFAN ANDREI, PARTY SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AND CEAUSESCU ADVISOR CONSTANTIN MITEA (ALSO EDITOR OF SCINTEIA).

3. OFFICIAL SCINTEIA AUGUST 6 REPORTED TWO LEADERS DISCUSSED IMPLEMENTATION IN EACH COUNTRY OF DECISIONS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE MOST RECENT PARTY CONGRESSES, INTERNATIONAL TOPICS, AND "SOME PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST AND WORKERS MOVEMENT." THEY REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED SATISFACTION OVER THE DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION IN ALL PRINCIPAL FIELDS, CALLED FOR EXPANDED BILATERAL COOPERATION IN PRODUCTION WITHIN GENERAL CEMA CONTEXT, REAFFIRMED WARSAW PACT DECLARATION OF NOVEMBER 1976 ON DISARMAMENT (NON-FIRST USE PROPOSAL WAS NOT SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED, HOWEVER), AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT FALL BELGRADE CONFERENCE WILL LEAD TO INCREASED MULTILATERAL COOPERATION AMONG EUROPEAN STATES. ON INTER-PARTY RELATIONS, THEY STRESSED "INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY" AND DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION, BASED ON EQUAL RIGHTS, MARXIST-LENINIST TENETS, AND "PRINCIPLES WHICH WERE AGREED TO AT BERLIN CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES." ATMOSPHERE OF MEETING WAS CHARACTERIZED BY SCINTEIA ONLY AS "CORDIAL AND FRIENDLY."

4. USUAL FOLLOW-UP EDITORIAL, APPEARING IN AUGUST 7 SCINTEIA, IS SHORT AND MARKEDLY COOL IN TONE. WHILE NOTING THE "ANCIENT" TIES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND THE "FRUITFUL" FRAMEWORK OF ROMANIAN-SOVIET TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, COOPERATION, AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE, EDITORIAL TAKES PAINS TO SPELL OUT IN DETAIL ROMANIA'S FREQUENTLY ENUNCIATED PRINCIPLES OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, WITH SPECIAL STRESS LAID ON INDEPENDENCE OF EACH COMMUNIST PARTY, NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS, MUTUAL ADVANTAGE, AND COMRADELY ASSISTANCE. EDITORIAL CONCLUDES BY OBSERVING THAT "VISIT HAS CONFIRMED THE FULL VITALITY OF THESE PRINCIPLES WHICH REPRESENTS THE EFFICIENT ROAD TOWARD STRENGTHENING INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY AMONG COMMUNISTS."

5. COMMENT: AS REPORTED BUCHAREST 5764, WE ARE NOT SURPRISED BY FACT OF A CRIMEA VISIT IN WAKE OF SANTIAGO CARRILLO'S VISIT HERE. WHAT WE DO FIND STRIKING IS ITS SHORTNESS, THE BLANDNESS OF ROMANIAN PRESS COVERAGE, AND COOL TONE OF THE LIMITED COMMENTARY SO FAR. OUR IMPRESSION IS THAT THERE WAS VERY LITTLE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CEAUSESCU AND BREZHNEV IN THE BRIEF TIME THEY HAD TOGETHER. PERHAPS BEST COMMENT CAME FROM ONE ROMANIAN WHO OBSERVED TO EMBOFF THAT, AFTER A YEAR OF PUBLICALLY GOOD RELATIONS WITH SOVIETS, IT IS NOW TIME TO "BALANCE" THAT WITH A YEAR OF NOT-SO-GOOD RELATIONS.

BARNES

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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